

Spring 2020



## SERA Newsletter

*Southwest Educational Research Association*

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### EDITOR:

Wendi K. Zimmer  
Texas A&M University

### The Prez Says...

The Prez Says...

Thanks to everyone for making the 43rd Annual SERA Conference in Arlington a huge success! We had over 215 presentations, including 14 workshops and/or symposiums, presented by 328 authors, 108 of whom had multiple presentations. Sessions were well attended by participants throughout the conference. We thank you for making SERA your outlet for sharing research with colleagues from around the country.

The SERA conference is organized solely through volunteers. None are paid for their service. Consequently, it is my privilege to recognize the exceptional service of so many dedicated volunteers, beginning with our past -president, **Shirley Matteson**, who provided excellent leadership, which has enabled SERA to continue to thrive as a supportive, scholarly organization. Behind the scenes at each conference providing leadership and organization are **Linda Zientek** - SERA Executive Director and **Bruce Thompson** - SERA past Executive Director and current Executive Director *Emeritus*. Bruce has helped lead SERA for more than 30 years in creating a supportive environment for scholars, including graduate students, to develop their scholarship. He also serves as the SERA Historian. We thank them for their continued contributions to this organization.

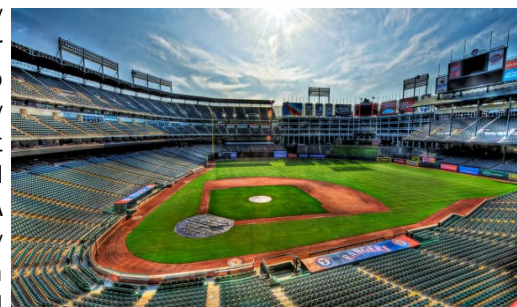


Photo Courtesy of the Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau



Shirley Matteson (left) presents a plaque to Grant Morgan (right)

The Division Chairs also deserve special recognition for all their efforts including managing division proposals, sending proposals out for review, writing acceptance letters, compiling and forwarding reviewer comments, and serving as primary points of contact on proposal submissions. The division chairs were, **Forrest Lane, Laura Isbell, Thomas De Vaney, Renee Lastrapes, Bob Elliot, Julia Yoo, Nara Martirosyan, Monica Wong-Ratcliff, Julie Smit, Audrey Meador and Rebecca DeLozier**. The work of division chairs is facilitated when so many of the membership agree to serve as proposal reviewers. I encourage you to continue to serve in this capacity.

I would also like to thank the 16 discussants, who shared their research expertise with the Division VI work-in-progress presenters. This year's discussants were **Emma Bullock, Faye**

[Continued on Page 2](#)



**Grant Morgan**  
Baylor University

## The Prez Says from page 1

Bruun, Lynn M. Burlbaw, Julie Combs, Chrissy Cross, Dittika Gupta, Bill Jasper, Audrey Meador, George Moore, Kim Nimon, Noah Padgett, Rachel Renbarger, Juanita Reyes, Celia Scott, Susan Troncoso Skidmore, and James Telese.

A special thank you goes to **Forrest Lane** for taking care of our local arrangements for the conference. This was the first year that our annual conference was held in Arlington, which would not have been possible without his dedication and commitment. The audio-visual team headed by **Aaron Zimmerman**, with onsite assistance from **Sandra Nite**, efficiently helped to meet technology needs for each session. We also thank our registration co-chairs **Dittika Gupta** and **Emma Bullock** as well as those who helped volunteer at the registration desk. Members were greeted warmly as they picked up their registration materials and directed to the appropriate session rooms. Thank you to

**Mary Margaret Capraro** who once again served as the official “SERA Trinket Maven” and also served in the capacity of “SERA Poster Maven” (i.e., she is the one makes the posters of the program that are displayed every year near the registration desk). Again, thank you to all of our volunteers. The conference would not be successful without your incredible contributions.

The 44th annual conference will be held on February 3rd – 5th, 2021 in San Antonio at the historic Menger Hotel. Planning is underway and information on the conference and on submitting proposals is provided later in this newsletter! I look forward to seeing each of you in San Antonio!

**Grant Morgan**  
President  
Baylor University

## 2020 EXTENDED SERVICE AWARD



**Linda Zientek** presents the SERA Extended Service Award to **Forrest Lane**

The SERA EXTENDED SERVICE AWARD is presented to individuals who have made substantial contributions to SERA over years in various roles. Previous winners have been: Kathy Cage Mittag, *University of Texas—San Antonio*, Sonya Centanni Carr, *Southeastern Louisiana University*, Gilbert Nazier, *Texas A&M University—Commerce*, Linda Reichwein Zientek, *Sam Houston State University*, Mary Margaret Capraro, *Texas A&M University*, Kim Nimon, *University of Texas—Tyler*, Susan Troncoso Skidmore, *Sam Houston State University*, Shirley Matteson, *Texas Tech University*, and Lesley Leach, *Tarleton State University*.

Congratulations to **Forrest C. Lane**, *Sam Houston State University*, the 2020 recipient of the SERA Extended Service Award. Forrest Lane served as the 2020 local arrangement's chair and as the 2018-2019 SERA President. Previously, Forrest served as the SERA secretary, webinar coordinator, and newsletter editor. Forrest continues to support SERA in his appointed role as webinar coordinator.

## News from Our Past President

SERA turned 43 this year, and its SERA 2020 conference in Arlington, Texas was a great success! We appreciate everyone who presented their research and shared their expertise through training sessions, workshops, paper presentations, symposiums, and innovative sessions. It is the contributions of our members that make this conference so wonderful, and without your time, effort, and scholarly contributions, none of this would be possible.

I want to take a moment to thank a few of the many people who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the conference run efficiently and smoothly. Kudos and thank you to the Program Chair and current President, **Grant Morgan**, and also to our local arrangements chair, **Forrest Lane** who was responsible for planning and organizing the schedule, rooms, trolley, and food. Thank you also to Executive Director **Linda Zientek**, who maintains the focus and vision of SERA along with the proposal system, to **Susan Troncoso Skidmore** who maintains the website and other technology needs in her role as Director of Information Technology, to **Katherine Vela** for her leadership of graduate student awards and activities, and to **Mary Margaret Capraro**, our “SERA Poster Maven” who also facilitated purchasing the graduate student media/card stand/holder.

I would also like to thank the **University of Texas – Arlington** for their sponsorship of the Wednesday night reception at Boston’s Pizza. In particular, a special thank you to **Teresa Taber Doughty**, Dean of the College of Education at the University of Texas – Arlington, **Dan Robinson**, Professor and Department Chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Texas – Arlington, and **Mario Martinez**, Chair of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies University of Texas – Arlington for their role in making our members feel welcome in Arlington, and for their organization of the Wednesday reception.

In closing, I would also like to thank the anonymous reviewers who judged papers for the SERA Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, which was awarded to **Kelly Anderson** from the University of Houston – Clear Lake. Please make plans to attend and present at SERA 2021 in San Antonio next year. Our President-Elect, **Celia Scott Wilson**, and the local arrangements chair, **Mordecai Brownlee**, along with the SERA Board, are planning a great event at the historic Menger Hotel.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Shirley M. Matteson**  
Past President  
Texas Tech University



**Shirley Matteson**  
Texas Tech University

*“SERA turned 43 this year, and its SERA 2020 conference in Arlington, Texas was a great success!”*

RIGHT: Conference attendees enjoyed a trolley ride around Arlington at the SERA 2020 Conference.





## 2020 SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award



**Gang Zhu**  
East China Normal  
University

Congratulations to **Gang Zhu**, *East China Normal University*, who was selected as our 2020 Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper awardee for his paper entitled “Is Flipping Effective? A Meta-Analysis of the Effect of Flipped Instruction on K-12 Students’ Academic Achievement.” Dr. Zhu will present this work at the 2021 AERA conference. This is quite a prestigious award for our conference. We applaud your exemplary efforts! The SERA Bruce Thompson Paper Award Committee is headed by the Executive Director serving ex officio as the non-voting Chair of the award committee.

**Paper Summary:** Currently, the overall effect of flipped instruction on K-12 students’ academic achievement is largely unknown, still less the effect across subject areas and grade levels. To close this research gap, we conducted a meta-analysis based on four synthesized aspects of flipped instruction research. Using robust variance estimation, based on 53 effects from 27 empirical studies, a weighted average effect of  $d^* = 0.54$  ( $SE = 0.10$ ),  $p < .001$ , indicated that

flipped instruction had a moderate advantage in promoting students’ academic achievement compared to traditional classroom instruction. However, a publication bias was revealed in results from the funnel plot, the Trim-and-Fill, and Egger’s regression test. Given the large unconditional heterogeneity ( $I^2 = 81.2\%$ ), we conducted mixed-effects analyses using study characteristics (publication type, grade level, subject area, duration of intervention, and publication year) as moderators. The mixed statistical significance of the moderator results as well as implications for enhancing flipped instruction in K-12 schools are discussed.

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*Dr. Gang Zhu will present his findings at the Distinguished Paper Session at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association in 2021.*

## 2020 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

Congratulations to **Kelly Anderson**, *University of Houston – Clear Lake*, who was selected to receive the 2020 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. Her paper is entitled “The Influence of Proctored Testing in Distance Learning Mathematics Courses.”

**Paper Summary:** Proctoring is the ideal way to monitor distance learning students’ conduct; however, it is expensive, inconvenient, and counter to the spirit of distance learning. The purpose of this mixed methods study was to examine the influence of proctored testing on college students’ test performance and test anxiety in distance learning mathematics courses. The study compared survey and examination results from 263 students in distance learning mathematics courses in a community college in Texas. Quantitative analysis revealed students performed better and experienced less test anxiety in an unproctored test environment. Qualitative analysis revealed contributors to test anxiety related to time. While unproctored testing should be used when possible, institutions should enforce proctored testing on high stakes examinations to ensure academic integrity.



**Shirley Matteson** presents the SERA Outstanding Graduate Student Award to **Kelly Anderson**

## Reflections from the Executive Director

Thanks to everyone for helping to create a great conference! We had a great meeting in Arlington. This was a new venue for us and members' reactions tended to be positive. Additionally, the sessions were well attended. We are looking forward to next year's conference. Many thanks also to **Teresa Taber Doughty**, Dean of the College of Education at the *University of Texas – Arlington*, **Dan Robinson**, Professor and Department Chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the *University of Texas – Arlington*, and **Mario Martinez**, Chair of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies at the *University of Texas – Arlington*, for sponsorship of the reception at Boston's Pizza. Everyone truly enjoyed themselves.

The SERA Board takes pride in their support of graduate students and faculty members. In fact, a couple of years ago, a faculty member's comments helped capture why SERA is such a special conference. This person stated that attending SERA was "like attending a reunion." We are proud of the supportive culture SERA has created over the past 43 years. Members have an opportunity to engage in discussions about research and forge professional and personal bonds with colleagues at their own and different institutions. This year **Forrest C. Lane** received the **Extended Service Award**.

The conference in Arlington had many interesting speakers and wonderful sessions. This year's ticketed training was provided by **Robin Henson**, *University of North Texas*, and **Sarah Ferguson**, *Rowan University*. Their workshop was entitled "Survey Design and Instrument Development: How Not to Collect Meaningless Data." The SERA Board is in the planning process for future workshops.

The Presidential Invited Speaker at the 43rd SERA annual meeting was **Michael Feuer**, Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Human Development and Professor of Education Policy at *The George Washington University*. In his keynote address, Dr. Feuer offered reflections on the origins of the "evidence movement," in the broader context of the American experiment with science policy, and offered a set of messages to guide processes, products, and usefulness of education research. The graduate students took

advantage of the opportunities that were afforded to them, which included sessions about dissertation tips, mixed-method research, quantitative and qualitative research, and selecting research topics. Graduate students also had an opportunity to participate in a fireside chat with Dr. Feuer. Graduate students also had an opportunity to attend a session that will help them as they pursue jobs. Those sessions were just a few of the opportunities that were provided.

People with whom I spoke with were looking forward to the 2021 SERA Conference. The **2021 meeting** will be held in **San Antonio** at the historic **Menger Hotel**. We look forward to another great turnout in San Antonio where attendees can also enjoy the many attractions in San Antonio! The Presidential Invited Speaker in San Antonio will be **Gregory Hancock**, a Professor and EDMS Program Director at the *University of Maryland*. Together with Patrick Curran, Dr. Hancock created ***Quantitude, The Podcast***. Dr. Hancock's website states that "It is a podcast dedicated to all things quantitative, ranging from the relevant to the highly irrelevant. Picture a cross between the CarTalk guys, the two old men from the Muppets, and a graduate statistics course." Dr. Hancock will also host an informal "Fireside Chat" with only graduate students, which is an opportunity for graduate students to raise any questions that they might like to discuss with the invited speaker. More information will be provided at a later date.

The SERA Board looks forward to seeing you and your colleagues in San Antonio and hopes that you enjoy the many opportunities to learn from and develop collaborations with colleagues at the SERA Conference.

**Linda Reichwein Zientek**–  
Sam Houston State University  
SERA Executive Director



**Linda Zientek**  
Sam Houston State University

## 2020 Dean's Award Recipients

*The SERA Dean's Awards are presented to students from participating universities. Congratulations to all 2020 winners!*

*To view the scoring rubric for the Dean's Award papers, please visit <http://sera-edresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Deans-Award.pdf>*

*Comparing Estimation Methods for ML-CFA Models with Categorical Data*  
**Noah Padgett**, Baylor University

*Asian American Women: Their Pathways to Leadership in Education*  
**Divina Browne**, Sam Houston State University

*Principals and School Counselors' Perceptions of the Role of the School Counselor*  
**Tania M. Merik**, Sam Houston State University

*Improving Perceptions of STEM Careers Through Informal Learning Environments*  
**Katherine N. Vela**, Texas A&M University  
**Rachelle M. Pedersen**, Texas A&M University  
**Macie N. Baucum**, Texas A&M University

*The Impact of an Induction Course on Ph.D. Students: A Qualitative Analysis of Student Perceptions*  
**Nazneen Askari**, Texas A&M University  
**Karla A. Garza**, Texas A&M University  
**Karen E. McIntush**, Texas A&M University  
**Peter Scaramuzzo**, Texas A&M University

*I Don't Know What To Do: A Mixed Method Study of Math Anxiety as Perceived by Students and Their Parents*  
**Andrea Marina Elizondo**, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi

*Using Interactive Read-Alouds to Foster the Acquisition of Mathematics Concepts for Fourth Grade Students*  
**Michele Cantera**, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi

*Science Identity and STEM Aspirations: Differences between English Language Learners and Native English Speakers*  
**Rebecca DeLozier**, Texas Tech University

*When Participatory Action Research Lacks Participation and Action, It's Just Research: A Critical Analysis of Photovoice PAR*  
**Crystal Dall Rose**, Texas Tech University

*Impact of Early-Childhood Teachers' Perceptions, Attitudes and Technology Proficiency on Educational Technology Use*  
**Angel Palumbo Plat**, University of Houston—Clear Lake

*Factors that Attribute to the Low Enrollment of Black Students in Dual Credit*  
**Akilah A. Martin**, University of Houston—Clear Lake



LEFT: Hotel Room Drawing Winners



## Thank you University of Texas—Arlington!



TOP: Dean Teresa Taber Doughty and Dan Robinson at the UT-Arlington sponsored social event.

Bottom: Dean's Award Recipients

## Congratulations to our Graduate Students!



## Past Graduate Student Representative Report



**Katherine Vela**  
Texas A&M University

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*“The research we  
conduct and those  
whom we instruct  
have the potential to  
affect the lives of  
young people for  
generations to come.”*

Another great year of SERA has come and gone. Thanks to the wonderful contributions of our graduate students, the 2020 conference was a huge success. I, both personally and on behalf of all of the graduate students, would like to thank the SERA Board members for the immense amount of time each contributed to create a supportive environment in which students can come and share their research.

Congratulations to all of the Dean's Award recipients. A special thank you to the Deans who showed support to their students through participation in such awards. The Deans of the following institutions graciously provided this year's funding: **Baylor University, Sam Houston State University, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi, Texas Tech University, University of Houston – Clear Lake, University of North Texas, and The University of Texas at Arlington.** There were over 20 papers submitted and the authors of 11 papers received awards from the participating universities. Please speak with your newly elected Graduate Student Representative to find out the winners for your university.

This year's **Graduate Student Council** evaluated the submitted papers and organized various duties throughout the conference. Members of this year's council include: **Noah Padgett**, Baylor University; **Dana Van De Walker**, Sam Houston State University; **Eric Holton**, Stephen F. Austin (At-large Delegate); **Michael Rugh**, Texas A&M University; **Mayra Alvarado**, Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi; **Rebecca DeLozier**, Texas Tech University; and **Emily Anne Brown**, University of North Texas. These individuals did an outstanding job communicating SERA news to others, requesting and confirming Dean's Award funding, encouraging conference participation, reviewing Dean's Award papers, taking photographs during the conference, being room greeters for conference sessions, collecting door prizes and giveaways for the Graduate Student Meeting, and promoting graduate student events. Additionally, the Graduate Student Council recruited room greeters from their respective universities to assist during the conference. I want to give huge shout out to the following graduate students for their service as a room greeter for the conference: **Anne Payne**, Baylor University; **Malin Hilmersson**, Sam Houston State University; **Kimberly Jones**, Texas Tech University; **Macie Baucum**, Texas A&M University; **Julia Calabrese**, Texas A&M University; **Cassidy Caldwell**, Texas A&M University; **Rachelle Pedersen**, Texas A&M

University; **Andrea Elizondo**, Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi; **Stephen M. Gruber**, University of Houston-Clear Lake; and **Trey DeJong**, University of North Texas.

My final bit of thanks goes to our incredible Graduate Student Advisors: **Dr. Lesley Leach**, Professor and Associate Dean of Research and Innovation at Tarleton State University, **Dr. Juanita Reyes**, Assistant Professor at Tarleton State University and **Dr. Sandra Acosta**, Associate Professor at Texas A&M University. They served the Graduate Student Council and provided outstanding support throughout the year. They have contributed greatly of their time and experience and I cannot express my gratitude to them enough. Thank you, Drs. Leach, Reyes and Acosta!

Last but not least, congratulations to **Rebecca DeLozier**, from Texas Tech University, who will be serving as the Graduate Student Representative for 2020-2021. Rebecca did an outstanding job this year on the Graduate Student Council. She is a hard worker, diligent, passionate, and very excited to serve the graduate students this year by being their voice on the SERA board. We can all expect the representation of graduate students to grow and excel during SERA 2021 with Rebecca leading the Graduate Student Council.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time serving as your Graduate Student Representative for this past year. My hope is that the graduate students who attended the conference networked with researchers with similar interests or those looking to improve education in different areas to foster future collaborations. Working together allows for different perspectives to be valued and hopefully deepen our impact on education. Follow your passions and always remember what initially brought you to education or educational research. For me, it was to make a difference and leave the world a better place for future generations. Keep up the good work you are all doing, I look forward to seeing what the future brings.

Sincerely,

**Katherine N. Vela**  
Texas A&M University



## SERA Research Grants

Two research grants are available to SERA members.

The **SERA Early Career Research Grant—Assistant Professor** is available to those individuals who meet the following criteria:

- An assistant professor employed at a 4-year institution in a tenure-track position
- Attended and presented at SERA within the last three years
- Collaborate with a designated mentor. Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with a mentor through the SERA Mentoring Initiative.

The **SERA Early Career Research Grant—Doctoral Candidate** is available to those individuals who meet the following criteria:

- A doctoral candidate who has defended a dissertation proposal approved by the dissertation committee.
- Attended and presented at SERA within the last 3 years.

Both SERA Research Grant awards provide up to \$1,000 for 1-year projects and may be awarded each year. Institutions may not charge indirect or overhead costs on these awards. Application requirements are listed on the SERA website.

### Funding restrictions

Previous award winners cannot reapply for the same award in subsequent years. SERA Board Members (either elected or appointed) are not eligible.

### Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria includes: Quality of literature review, relevance of the topic, relevance of research questions, the strength of the methodology section, and quality of writing. An additional criterion includes whether or not the analytic methods fit the research questions.

### Reporting requirements

All Research Grantees are required to submit a SERA proposal and send a copy of the proposal to the Executive Director. In order to receive the final grant funds (see funding disbursement), a manuscript, in article format with a level of quality for submission to a peer-reviewed journal, must be submitted by the first day of the February Annual Conference the following year. For example, an award made in 2020 would require grant recipients to submit their manuscript prior to the 2021 annual conference.

### Funding disbursement

Grantees will receive \$500.00 upon award selection and \$500.00 after presenting at the next February SERA Annual Conference (receipts must be submitted). Travel expenses to conferences may not exceed 30% of award total. The award amounts will not be channeled through institutions; thus, there are no overhead or indirect costs.

### Application Deadlines

Applications for these Research Grants will be open once a year. Grant proposals must be submitted to the Grant Coordinator, George Moore at [gwm002@shsu.edu](mailto:gwm002@shsu.edu) and the SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek at [lrzientek@shsu.edu](mailto:lrzientek@shsu.edu) by **April 1** of each year and awardees will be selected by **May 1**.



**Chrissy Cross**

Stephen F. Austin State University



**George Moore**

Sam Houston State University

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*SERA Research Grant  
awards provide up to \$1,000  
for 1-year projects may be  
awarded each year.*

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*Apply by April 1st!*

## Congratulations to our 2020 Doctoral Student Research Grant Winner!



**Rachel Renbarger**  
Baylor University

Congratulations to **Rachel Renbarger**, *Baylor University*, the 2020 recipient of the SERA Doctoral Student Research Grant! Rachel presented her research titled, *Exploring Doctoral Degree Attainment from Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program Alumni: An Embedded Case Study*.

Paper Summary: Understanding how students from marginalized groups have created successful pathways during their undergraduate and graduate school careers is crucial to decreasing the gap in doctoral degree attainment. This embedded case study, funded in part by the SERA Early Career Grant, will extend the previous research by examining the pathways of McNair Scholars within one undergraduate program and examine their entire graduate school experience using a specific doctoral student theoretical lens. Participants include McNair alumni who have completed a doctoral degree. Results from this research will help determine overall effectiveness of the program along with important factors for doctoral student success.

## Ask the SERA Historian...

**SERA graduate student member Priscilla Farktoasthoustonhousen writes in to ask the SERA Historian:**

"Dear Dr. SERA Historian: At the SERA annual luncheon, lottery drawings are held to award free room nights in the conference hotel to 15-20 students present at the annual SERA luncheon. I can sort of figure out why one requirement for free room night eligibility is presence at the luncheon when the lottery drawings are conducted. But why is there a second eligibility requirement that students be officially registered in the conference hotel (for example, as opposed to unofficially sleeping in a friend's hotel room closet or bathtub, or staying in another hotel)? Thank you in advance for your insightful explanation."

**Dr. SERA Historian responds:**

Well, Priscilla, there are two reasons:

1. When SERA contracts with the conference hotel for meeting room space and hotel room nights, SERA contracts that a certain number of hotel room nights will be booked by SERA members in exchange for free or reduced cost meeting room space. If

the contracted number of room nights are not booked by SERA members, then SERA must nevertheless itself pay for those unused room nights. This can easily cost many thousands of dollars. This has sadly happened in the past. So SERA tries to do everything it can to motivate people to stay in the conference hotel.

2. The mechanism by which SERA pays for the room nights is to pay the hotel to credit the bills of the room night winners directly, rather than issuing numerous checks to the winners. This insures that (a) room night winners indeed are registered in the hotel and (b) the SERA Treasurer doesn't have to write 15-20 additional checks beyond the dozens of checks she already has to write (e.g., to the hotel for food, to numerous Dean's award winners, outstanding paper winners, the invited speaker for travel expenses). Furthermore, tragically the SERA Treasurer has profound chronic carpal tunnel syndrome, and is already barely able to write the checks she already has to write.

**Bruce Thompson**

SERA Historian and Executive Director Emeritus



**Bruce Thompson**  
Texas A&M University

## Graduate Student News

Dear Graduate Student SERA Member,

Greetings to all of the graduate student members on behalf of the SERA Board of Directors, I want to thank everyone for helping make the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual SERA Conference a success. Your efforts as presenters, attendees, and volunteers are what helped make for a remarkable conference. Thank you for such dedicated support of our community of educational researchers and practitioners. It was an honor to serve as a Campus Representative last year, and I am looking forward to continuing my service as the Graduate Student Representative to the SERA Board this year.

First, I want to thank the 2019-2020 Graduate Student representative **Katherine Vela** (Texas A&M University) for her year of service to SERA, the Board, and graduate student members of SERA. Katherine has worked tirelessly for the SERA graduate student community over the past twelve months and her efforts to increase graduate student engagement are appreciated. Further, I want to recognize the 2019-2020 SERA Campus Representatives: **Noah Padgett** (Baylor University), **Dana van de Walker** (Sam Houston State University), **Eric Holton** (Stephen F. Austin State University), **Michaels Rugh** (Texas A&M University), **Mayra Alvarado** (Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi), **Rebecca DeLozier** (Texas Tech University), and **Emily Ann Brown** (University of North Texas).

During the conference, attendees of the graduate student meeting selected the new SERA Graduate Student Council for 2020-2021. I am excited to welcome **Anna Payne** (Baylor University), **Ann Le** (Sam Houston State University), **Karen McIntush** (Texas A&M University), **Mayra Alvarez** (Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi), **Jesse Brock** (Tarleton State University), **Michelle Spoonmore** (Texas Tech University), **Ida**

**Joiner** (Texas Wesleyan University), **Stephen Gruber** (Sam Houston State University), and **Courtney Matthews** (University of Texas at Arlington). If your university does not have a representative, please spread the news to attend the graduate student meeting at SERA 2021.

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual SERA Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas, from February 3-5, 2021. The conference is an outstanding opportunity to network with scholars from across the region and share your research in our supportive and respectful community. I encourage all graduate students to submit a proposal to present next year. Remember, Division VI provides the chance to receive invaluable feedback on your research in progress. Additionally, I encourage you to consider submitting a paper for a Dean's Award or the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. You can find more information about these awards on the SERA website or in the call for proposals included at the end of this newsletter.

I encourage you to get involved in SERA in the coming year. Please reach out to your campus representative or me if you have any questions or suggestions. I look forward to seeing you all next year in San Antonio.

Sincerely,

**Rebecca DeLozier**

SERA Graduate Student Representative  
Texas Tech University



**Rebecca DeLozier**  
Texas Tech University

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*"The conference is an outstanding opportunity to network with scholars from across the region and share your research in our supportive and respectful community."*



## SERA Annual Meeting: San Antonio, TX



**Celia Scott**  
Texas Wesleyan University

*“SERA has  
several initiatives to  
support students  
and faculty.”*

The SERA Executive board is pleased to announce the **44<sup>th</sup> Annual SERA Conference** will be held at the historic Menger Hotel in **San Antonio**. The 2021 SERA Conference begins on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, and concludes on Friday, February 5, 2021. Several great workshops and training sessions are being planned that focus on supporting members’ professional development needs. A ticketed session will be offered on Wednesday of the conference, the topic of which is under discussion by the SERA board.

SERA has several initiatives to support students and faculty. The **SERA Early Career Faculty Mentoring Initiative** was designed to strengthen the mission of SERA by adding an additional tier of support for junior faculty. The purposes of this initiative include: (a) furthering scholarly research, (b) supporting career advancement, and (c) enhancing leadership opportunities for members who are junior faculty. This initiative plays a vital role in expanding the SERA membership and preparing future leaders. **Michelle Peters** maintains the LinkedIn page where we invite mentors and mentees to join (see SERA website). In addition, students and early career faculty can apply for **research grants**. More information on research grants is provided in this newsletter. Please contact **Michelle Peters, George Moore, or Chrissy Cross** for questions about the Mentoring Initiative or research grants. I also would like to recognize the efforts of **Lesley Leach, Juanita Reyes, and Martha Sowell** who will undertake the huge task of photographing the conference events, with special emphasis on photographing graduate students. Additionally, attendees will have the option of posting photos to Twitter (@EdResearchSERA).

Other sections of this Spring Newsletter provide details about the session provided by our Presidential Invited Speaker, **Greg Hancock**. Immediately following Thursday’s Presidential Invited Address, graduate students will have the opportunity to enjoy a Fireside Chat with the 2021 Presidential

Invited Speaker. Several other sessions during the conference also will focus on our graduate students.

Proposals for the 2021 SERA annual conference are due on September 27, 2020. Complete details regarding the proposals are available within the 2021 Call for Proposals, which can be found at the end of the newsletter and also on the SERA website at (<http://sera-edresearch.org>). We encourage you to submit a proposal and present at the 2021 conference in San Antonio. The SERA conference is a great outlet to exchange research ideas and network with other scholars in your field and across the region. SERA conference program information will again be available in both print, for a small fee, and as a downloadable .pdf file.

The local arrangements chair, **Mordecai Brownlee**, has been hard at work securing arrangements for our annual meeting in San Antonio. The local arrangements chair negotiates our hotel rates and room accommodations and handles all the logistical challenges normally associated with hosting a large meeting, including the wonderful luncheon menu.

The location of the Menger Hotel, near the Riverwalk and the Alamo, is a favorite of those of us who have been SERA members for several years. For those of you joining us for your first conference, you will find many options for food, entertainment, and drinks within walking distance of the hotel. We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

**Celia Scott**  
President-Elect and Program Chair  
Texas Wesleyan University

## 2021 Presidential Invited Address



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*Dr. Hancock will also hold a “fireside chat” for graduate students!*

**Dr. Gregory Hancock**  
University of Maryland

Gregory R. Hancock is Professor, Distinguished Scholar-Teacher, and Director of the Measurement, Statistics and Evaluation program in the Department of Human Development and Quantitative Methodology at the University of Maryland, College Park, and Director of the Center for Integrated Latent Variable Research (CILVR). His research interests include structural equation modeling and latent growth models, and the use of latent variables in (quasi)experimental design. His research has appeared in such journals as *Psychometrika*, *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, *Psychological Bulletin*, *Psychological Methods*, *British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology*, *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, *Review of Educational Research*, and *Communications in Statistics: Simulation and Computation*. He also co-edited with Ralph O. Mueller the volumes *Structural Equation Modeling: A Second Course* (2006; 2013) and *The Reviewer's Guide to Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences* (2010), with Karen M. Samuelsen the volume *Advances in Latent Variable Mixture Models* (2008), and with Jeffrey R. Harring the volume *Advances in Longitudinal Methods in the Social and Behavioral Sciences* (2012). He is past chair of the SEM special interest group of the American Educational Research Association (three terms), serves on the editorial board of a number of journals including *Psychological Methods* and *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, and has taught dozens of methodological workshops in the United States, Canada, and abroad. He is a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association, the American Psychological Association, and the Association for Psychological Science, and received the 2011 Jacob Cohen Award for Distinguished Contributions to Teaching and Mentoring by the American Psychological Association.

## SERA Board Members and Appointments

<b>President</b>	Grant Morgan <i>Baylor University</i>	<b>Secretary: 2019-2021</b>	Lesley Leach <i>Tarleton State University</i>
<b>President-Elect/ Program Chair</b>	Celia Wilson Scott <i>Texas Wesleyan University</i>	<b>Webinar Coordinator</b>	Forrest Lane <i>Sam Houston State University</i>
<b>Past-President</b>	Shirley Matteson <i>Texas Tech University</i>	<b>Graduate Student Representative</b>	Rebecca Delozier <i>Texas Tech University</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kim Nimon <i>University of Texas—Tyler</i>		Sandra Nite <i>Texas A&amp;M University</i>
<b>Executive Director</b>	Linda Zientek <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	<b>Members-at-Large: 2018—2021</b>	Aaron Zimmerman <i>Texas Tech University</i>  Marsha Sowell <i>Texas A&amp;M University—Kingsville</i>
<b>Director of Information Technology</b>	Susan Troncoso Skidmore <i>Sam Houston State University</i>		Michelle Peters <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i>
<b>Executive Director Emeritus Historian</b>	Bruce Thompson <i>Texas A&amp;M University</i>	<b>Members-at-Large: 2019-2022</b>	George Moore <i>Sam Houston State University</i>  Juanita Reyes <i>Tarleton State University</i>
<b>Deputy Historian</b>	Victor Willson <i>Texas A&amp;M University</i>		Faye Bruun <i>Texas A&amp;M University—Corpus Christi</i>
<b>Deputy Treasurer</b>	Grant Morgan <i>Baylor University</i>	<b>Members-at-Large: 2020-2023</b>	Emma Bullock <i>Sam Houston State University</i>  Lynn Burlbaw <i>Texas A&amp;M University</i>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Wendi Zimmer <i>Texas A&amp;M University</i>	<b>SERA Early Career Faculty Mentoring Initiative</b>	Michelle Peters <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i>
<b>Audio Visual</b>	Aaron Zimmerman <i>Texas Tech University</i>	<b>SERA Early Career Research Grant Initiative</b>	George Moore <i>Sam Houston State University</i>  Chrissy Cross <i>Stephen F. Austin State University</i>

Individuals are nominated by the membership each fall to serve on the SERA board. All current members are eligible to vote and receive an electronic ballot. SERA elections use the Hare system and at-large member candidates serve a three-year term beginning at the end of each annual meeting.



## Welcome to Our New Elected Board Members

**Dr. Faye Bruun** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Learning Sciences at Texas A&M University –Corpus Christi. She is the Program Coordinator of the Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction. Dr. Bruun’s specialization is mathematics education and her scholarship focuses on using literature and manipulatives to teach mathematics. She works closely with the Coastal Council of Teachers of Mathematics organizing the annual ME by the SEa Conference since its inception.



**Dr. Emma P. Bullock** is an Assistant Professor in the Mathematics and Statistics Department at Sam Houston State University. Before joining SHSU, she served in public schools as a teacher and principal for 13 years. In that time, she taught mathematics, science, and music in grades 6-12 and served as a principal for 5 years. Her research interests include the intersection of school leadership and student mathematics achievement and how virtual manipulatives in digital math games may help or hinder student learning.

**Dr. Lynn M. Burlbaw** is a Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning and Culture at Texas A&M University - College Station. He has taught courses in social studies methods, curriculum development and the introductory doctoral course in curriculum and instruction. His research skills lie in the area of archival research, exploring various archival collections for data on teacher education, curriculum and schools in Texas and Colorado. He and his students have presented school biographies, curriculum projects and certification reports at local, state and national conferences. He looks forward to serving SERA as he retires after 31 years of teaching at TAMU.



## 2020–2021 Graduate Student Council

**Anna Payne**

*Baylor University*



**Michelle Spoonemore**

*Texas Tech University*



**Ann Le**

*Sam Houston State University*



**Ida Joiner**

*Texas Wesleyan University*



**Karen McIntush**

*Texas A&M University*



**Stephen Gruber**

*Sam Houston State University*



**Jesse Brock**

*Tarleton State University*



**Courtney Matthews**

*University of Texas Arlington*



**Mayra Alvarez**

*Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi*



## Preview of 2021 Conference—San Antonio, TX!

Come join us in San Antonio at the Menger Hotel for our SERA 2021 annual conference from February 3 to 5, 2021. You can be assured of a very academically stimulating conference and a good time for all. San Antonio has always been a crossroads for travelers, explorers, and those on a quest for liberty. Its sights, sounds, tastes and past captivate, while friendly people, the relaxing river and superb climate entice visitors to come back for more. From its important role in Texas independence to its fusion of cultures, San Antonio is a truly unique and authentic destination.

While in San Antonio for the conference, you will have many places to visit for shopping, dining, and entertainment. The Alamo, The Riverwalk, Tower of Americas, the Buckhorn Hall of Fame and several museums such as the Witte, McNay Art Museum, and San Antonio Museum of Art are great places to site-see if this is your venue of choice. If you like to shop, make sure to take some time to stroll through La Villita for a very unique shopping experience. Are you more into the fun “party crowd” localities? You will find such places as Dick’s Last Resort, Howl at the Moon, Swigs, Pat O’Brien’s, and Dirty Nellie’s to choose from.

The Roosevelt Bar is a must see piece of history that is located in the Menger Hotel. Teddy Roosevelt enlisted his Rough Riders there and Carrie Nation chopped up the bar during prohibition. The Menger has a very extensive and interesting history, the hotel first opened its doors in 1859 making it the oldest continuously operating hotel west of the Mississippi River.

Many famous people have stayed at the hotel such as Babe Ruth, Mae West, Roy Rogers and his wife Dale Evans, General Sam Houston, Presidents McKinley, Nixon, Reagan, Johnson, Clinton and Bush. It’s been said that the hotel has many ghosts and spirits, so don’t be too surprised to catch a glimpse of them roaming around the hotel. Cheers and see you in San Antonio!



Photo Courtesy of the San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau



**Join us at the Menger Hotel  
San Antonio, TX  
February 3-5, 2021**

**Important Dates:**

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| • SERA Proposal System Opens                             | Early August       |
| • SERA Proposal System Closes                            | September 27, 2020 |
| • Receipt of Conference Registration—by Check            | October 5, 2020    |
| • Receipt of Conference Registration—by PayPal           | October 12, 2020   |
| • SERA Elections Begin                                   | October 16, 2020   |
| • SERA Elections Close                                   | November 1, 2020   |
| • SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award Submission | November 25, 2020  |
| • Proposal Decisions Emailed to First Author             | Early November     |
| • Draft of Conference Program Posted                     | Early December     |



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2020 SERA Conference Networking

# ***SOUTHWEST EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION***

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 3 - FEBRUARY 5, 2021 MENDER HOTEL SAN ANTONIO, TX**

### **Program Chair:**

Celia M. Scott  
Texas Wesleyan University  
1201 Wesleyan  
Fort Worth, TX 76105  
817-531-4954  
cewilson@txwes.edu

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The 44th Annual Meeting of the Southwest Educational Research Association will be held

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 THROUGH FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2021**

at the Menger Hotel • 204 Alamo Plaza • San Antonio, TX 78205

Tel: (210)223-4361 • Fax: (210)228-0022 • <http://mengerhotel.com/>

### **General Proposal Guidelines**

Both members and non-members may submit proposals for consideration. **Only original work** that has not been previously (a) published, or (b) presented at SERA, or (c) presented at another professional meeting, is eligible for consideration. If a portion of the work has been previously presented, but not published, and the new original contribution is substantial, the work is eligible for consideration, but only if the prior work is explicitly acknowledged. For example, one year a student presented a paper explaining the precepts of computing "clinical significance," and the next year wrote a paper reporting a meta-analysis of clinical significance tests reported in a given literature. The primary focus of the second paper was the meta-analysis, the prior presentation was explicitly referenced, and the second paper was a co-winner of the SERA Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. Questions regarding the "originality of work" requirement may be addressed to the Program Chair. *The general principle is that SERA is not a venue for reporting work already reported either elsewhere, or previously.* Proposals for papers, tutorials, symposia, innovative format sessions, and graduate student seminars will be considered for inclusion in the program and should be submitted electronically to the SERA website at: <http://sera-edresearch.org/>

Submit **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020.**

*Proposals are invited on topics from all disciplines related to education.*

**Authors and co-authors are required to register for the annual meeting and principal authors are expected to present their papers in person.** If circumstances prevent principal authors from doing so, they must designate a substitute to make their presentations.

*All authors and co-authors must preregister and pay registration fees for the annual meeting by the October deadline. Registration fees include the annual member dues. Include as co-authors only persons who have made a substantial contribution to the paper. All persons who benefit from the presentation of papers at the annual meeting (i.e., all authors and co-authors) are expected to contribute to our scholarly community by helping to pay association conference expenses (i.e., register/pay annual dues).*

**Current SERA membership** is NOT a requirement for proposal submissions. Instead, what is required is that all authors and **all** coauthors must register and pay the registration fees for the conference for which the presentation is being submitted. The SERA Registration web pages are typically opened in late August, and payments must be received (not sent; received) by the October deadlines posted on the SERA Home Page.



**All meeting rooms at the annual conference will be equipped with an LCD projector with a VGA cable (3-row 15-pin connector) and a projector screen. Presenters are responsible for providing working computers and VGA adapters for their computers if needed.**

Also, wireless internet is NOT provided, so presenters should either bring presentations on a flash/thumb drive or have capability of providing a wireless hotspot if your presentation is stored on a virtual space. **Presenters must supply all other audio-visual equipment. Participants are advised to bring their own laptop computers.**

**PLEASE NOTE** that conference registration and payment \*\*\*RECEIPT\*\*\* are \*\*\*STRICTLY required\*\*\* within roughly one month (i.e., **By OCTOBER 5th for check or Purchase Order payments and by OCTOBER 12, 2020 for PayPal payments**) of the proposal submission deadline in order for proposals to be considered.

**First**, registration must be completed on-line at <http://sera-edresearch.org/>

**Second**, payment may be made either using the SERA Registration web site and its Pay Pal features, which includes a credit card option, or by postal mailing a check or purchase order **BY THE PAYMENT RECEIPT OCTOBER DEADLINE** to the address indicated on the conference registration form.

Any persons who have all of their proposals rejected may request a conference registration refund by contacting the Treasurer. All such requests for refunds must be received by December 5, 2020, and must include (a) a postal mailing address, (b) a copy of the proposal rejection(s) and (c) a copy of the SERA registration form. Conference registration payment by all authors/co-authors is a condition for proposal review, includes annual dues, and is not otherwise refundable unless all an individual's proposals are rejected. **The proposals of any persons not completing both conference registration and payment BY THE OCTOBER DEADLINE will be rejected.**

Persons submitting proposals will be notified of the disposition of their proposals by the end of November. The DRAFT program will be posted on the SERA website in early December, and the final program will be posted in January.

**THE FIRST SESSION WILL START ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021 AT ROUGHLY NOON.**

### **Implicit Permission to Take and Use Photograph**

During the annual meeting photographs are taken of presenters and participants in public spaces (e.g., meeting rooms, hallways, at the luncheon), which may then be displayed during the annual meeting, in SERA newsletters, or on the SERA website. **THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSAL IS DEEMED A GRANT BY ALL AUTHORS TO SERA TO USE SUCH PHOTOS FOR NONPROFIT USES.**

## **PROPOSALS**

**ALL PROPOSALS** for inclusion in the program must be submitted electronically using the link posted on the SERA website: <http://sera-edresearch.org>. Proposals should be no more than two (2) single-spaced pages in length.

The program chair, in conjunction with the president, will accept workshops according to the space available in the conference program. Because Innovative Session and Workshop formats both require substantial program time, only a very **limited number** of proposals for these two formats may be accepted.

### **1. Proposals for Paper Sessions**

Paper sessions are organized around topic areas selected by the Program Committee. Participants will each be given between 11-13 minutes to present papers in summary fashion. To propose a paper for a paper session, authors should prepare a summary including (a) a statement of the problem, (b) perspective(s) or theoretical framework, (c) methods and procedures, (d) results and conclusions, and (e) the educational or scientific importance of the study. Where feasible, sessions will be organized around themes to promote discussion and audience interaction. Session Chairs are typically one of the presenters from that session, so



please be sure to check the program ahead of time to determine who is chairing a given session. An asterisk (\*) next to a presenter's name in the conference program indicates selection as the timekeeper.

## **2. Proposals for Symposia**

A symposium consists of a set of paper presentations organized by the symposium organizer. As with paper sessions, all symposium papers must be written, and must be distributed to the audience in paper form, or submitted to the SERA Paper Repository, or both. The difference between Paper Sessions and Symposia is that papers in Paper Sessions are grouped by the Program Chair, while the papers in Symposium Sessions are grouped by the organizer. It is the responsibility of symposia organizers to identify topics, solicit speakers, and, if appropriate, provide discussants for symposia sessions. Organizers must designate a chairperson in the proposal (typically the organizer). Being a presenter does not preclude a person from also serving as chair. The organizer is also responsible for notifying other symposium presenters of the disposition of the proposal. The summary should include the following information: (a) objectives of the symposium; (b) summaries of the point of view or conclusion(s) to be drawn from each presenter; (c) a statement regarding the scientific or educational importance of the symposium; and (d) a list, on a separate page, of the symposium presenters (including a discussant, if appropriate) and their institutional affiliations. The submission system requires that *each symposium paper has a title and a given set of authors*.

## **3. Tutorials/Training Sessions**

Tutorials or Training Sessions provide an opportunity to provide instruction and/or information on a specific topic to the audience in approximately 50 minutes. To propose a tutorial/training session, authors should prepare a summary to include (a) a statement of the topic, (b) perspective(s) or importance of the topic, (c) information about the topic, and (d) how it might be applied to a research project.

## **4. Proposals for Innovative Format Sessions**

Proposals for sessions employing innovative formats will be considered. Proposals for structured debates on specific, controversial issues are encouraged. Persons wishing to submit a proposal for an innovative format presentation should explain how the format will be structured and what topics or issues will be discussed. A list of presenters should be included on the cover sheet. The organizer is responsible for notifying all presenters of the disposition of the proposal.

## **5. Student Division for RESEARCH IN PROGRESS (Division VI Only)**

To encourage participation by graduate students, seminars will be scheduled to allow graduate students to summarize research proposals, including theses or dissertations **still in the developmental stage that have not yet been defended**. Authorship on Division VI proposals are *limited to students and should not include a faculty co-author*. In these sessions, a distinguished researcher will provide feedback to students. A distinguished researcher will lead session discussions. Students who wish to submit a proposal for a graduate student seminar should prepare 3 copies of a 2-page, typed (size 12 font), single-spaced summary. The summary should include (a) a statement of the problem, (b) the significance of the study, and (c) a description of the proposed methods and procedures. Please be sure to indicate that the submission is research in progress. Students whose seminar presentation proposals are accepted should send a copy of their seminar paper to the session discussant so that the copy is **RECEIVED on or before January 8, 2021**.

NOTE: Research that will be completed prior to the conference is **not** appropriate for Division VI seminars. **Of course, graduate students may submit proposals for presentations not suitable for Division VI to any of the other five divisions, based on a match of presentation topic to the division's coverage.**

### **Remember:**

- There is a **limit of 12 coauthors** per submission.
- All authors/co-authors and workshop, symposia, and innovative session presenters must register for the annual meeting.
- The Program Committee may exclude any proposal that does not meet the guidelines specified in this publication.
- Presenters are expected to bring **10-15 copies** of their papers to the annual meeting for distribution to the audience, **OR** upload a digital copy of the paper to the SERA Paper Repository website. More information about the Repository will be disseminated in the Fall.
- All meeting rooms at the annual conference will be equipped with an LCD Projector with a *VGA cable* (3-row 15-pin connector) and a projector screen, but you must bring your own laptops. Presenters are encouraged to put their presentations on a flash drive and all the presenters load their presentation onto one laptop before the session begins. **Presenters must supply all other audio-visual equipment**. For instance, mac users may want to bring their own dongle. SSD laptops may require a HDMI-VGA cable.

**PLEASE NOTE** that conference registration and payment \*\*\*RECEIPT\*\*\* are required within one month (i.e., BY THE OCTOBER DEADLINE) of the proposal submission deadline.

## PAPERS

The SERA annual meeting is intended as a venue in which presenters have written **an actual prepared paper, which is made available to interested members**. In other words, SERA is *NOT* a venue for extemporaneously delivering off-the-cuff remarks. In short, the primary communication medium of the conference is in the form of exchanging written, formal, archival scholarly papers, and not oral.

Most papers have 10-18 pages of narrative, references, and many have tables and/or figures. All papers should have a cover page listing the title, authors, and a note at the bottom saying, **"Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwest Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX February (date), 2021."** Also, please, in the **UPPER RIGHT CORNER** of your cover page, type the Session Number in which the paper is being presented (e.g., "T2.3", "W1.4", "F3.1"), as indicated by the conference program posted to the web in December prior to the annual meeting.

Many previous SERA papers from the past 40 years of conferences are available as ERIC "ED" documents. If you want to see some actual previous papers. You can go to <http://www.eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/search/extended.jsp> and search on "Southwest Educational Research Association" as a KEYWORD, and then in the ED/EJ box click on ONLY ED (which are non-journal articles, and mostly conference papers). Most of these will have a link to the PDF version of the SERA paper.

If you know the ERIC "ED" "accession number" for the PDF file, you can also go to:

<http://www.eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/basicSearch.do> and type the accession number as the SEARCH TERM to get the PDF file. Here are 3 sample recent SERA papers: ED499991, ED499990, and ED500497.

**Submit proposals online at: <http://sera-edresearch.org/>**

**Proposals should be submitted to only one division.** The program committee reserves the right to reject all proposals that appear to be "duplicate" submissions by the same author(s). Please feel free to contact one of the following division chairs if you have questions.

### Program Division Chairs

#### I. Educational Administration, Policy, Leadership, & Program Evaluation

Ken Helvey

Texas Wesleyan University

[jkhelvey@txwes.edu](mailto:jkhelvey@txwes.edu)

Kevin E Kalinowski

Sam Houston State University

[kevin.kalinowski@shsu.edu](mailto:kevin.kalinowski@shsu.edu)

#### II. Instruction, Learning & Cognition

Laura Isbell

Texas A&M University – Commerce

[Laura.Isbell@tamuc.edu](mailto:Laura.Isbell@tamuc.edu)

Sandra Nite

Texas A&M University

[snite@math.tamu.edu](mailto:snite@math.tamu.edu)

#### III. Methodology, Measurement & Evaluation

Tommy De Vaney

Southeastern Louisiana

[tdevaney@selu.edu](mailto:tdevaney@selu.edu)

Lisa Dryden

Texas Wesleyan University

[ldryden@txwes.edu](mailto:ldryden@txwes.edu)

#### IV. Teachers & Teacher Education

Bob Elliot

Linyi University

[RBRT\\_LLTT@yahoo.com](mailto:RBRT_LLTT@yahoo.com)

Julia Yoo

Lamar University

[hyoo@lamar.edu](mailto:hyoo@lamar.edu)

#### V. Special Populations & Counseling

Nara Martirosyan

Sam Houston State University

[nxm021@SHSU.EDU](mailto:nxm021@SHSU.EDU)

Monica Wong-Ratcliff

Texas A&M University – Kingsville

[Monica.Ratcliff@tamuk.edu](mailto:Monica.Ratcliff@tamuk.edu)

#### VI. Graduate Student Seminars for Work in Progress

Julie Smit

Texas Tech University

[julie.smit@ttu.edu](mailto:julie.smit@ttu.edu)

Audrey Meador

West Texas A&M University

[ameador@wtamu.edu](mailto:ameador@wtamu.edu)

Ida Joiner

Texas Wesleyan University

[iajoiner@txwes.edu](mailto:iajoiner@txwes.edu)

## **POSSIBLE DESCRIPTORS**

Following is a list of *suggested* terms you may use to describe your proposal:

Achievement	Early Childhood	Learning	Reading
Adult Education	Education	Learning Styles	Reflective Thinking
Arts	Educational Reform	Mathematics Education	Research Methods
At-Risk Students	Effective Schools	Minority Recruitment	Schools
Attitudes	Efficacy	Minority Retention	School Environment
Classroom Management	English Education	Multicultural Education	School Improvement
Clinical Issues	Evaluation	Novice/Expert Studies	School Restructuring
Cognition	Exceptional Education	Parent Education	Science Education
College Students	Field Experience	Parent Involvement	Self Perception
Computer Education	Finance	Performance Assessment	Social Sciences
Constructivism	Gender Issues	Policy	Statistics
Critical Thinking	Gifted Education	Post Secondary	Student Motivation
Culture	Higher Education	Education	Student
Curriculum	In-service Education	Preschool Education	Violence/Conflict
Development	Instruction	Preservice Education	Teacher Characteristics
Discipline	International Education	Principals	Technology
Drug Education	Language	Private Schools Professional	Tests
		Development	Vocational Education

**Submit all materials electronically (to be received by SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020)**  
**using the SERA website:**  
<http://sera-edresearch.org/>

## 2021 SERA BRUCE THOMPSON OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD

Authors are encouraged to email copies of the paper submitted for presentation at the 2021 annual meeting to the SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek, by **NOON, FRIDAY, November 15, 2020**. The winner of the BRUCE THOMPSON OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD will be announced in the newsletter, be recognized at the luncheon during the 2021 SERA annual meeting, and present the paper at one of the sessions of Outstanding Papers from the State and Regional Research Associations at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association in **2022**. A stipend of \$1000 to help defray the costs involved in attending the AERA meeting will be awarded to the winner.

### *Rules for Outstanding Paper Award Competition:*

- Authors must submit both a full version and a blinded version of their paper via email to the Executive Director, Linda Zientek, [lrzientek@shsu.edu](mailto:lrzientek@shsu.edu) for consideration.
- The Executive Director must **receive** completed papers on or before the deadline. Late papers are **not** eligible for consideration. At the discretion of the Executive Board, an award may not be made if fewer than 3 meritorious papers are submitted for competition, or if the award committee deems that no award should be made. Should this occur, all participants will be advised that the award will not be made.
- An individual may submit only one paper on which the member is a co-author. Papers with any common co-authors will not be considered.
- Papers will not be considered for the award unless all co-authors have paid preregistration fees by the October deadline for payment receipt.
- Persons who authored the SERA Outstanding Paper in the immediate prior year are not eligible for award consideration in the following year.
- **Active officers of the SERA Executive Council, including appointed officers, are not eligible for this competition.**

*Email papers to:*

LINDA ZIENTEK, SERA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SUBJECT LINE: 2021 SERA OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD  
[lrzientek@shsu.edu](mailto:lrzientek@shsu.edu)



## 2021 SERA OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

An award of \$750 and a certificate will be given for the best paper presented by a graduate student member at the annual meeting. For a paper to be eligible, **the work must be completed before the annual meeting** and then presented in a paper or symposium session. Student authors should **electronically** submit completed copies of their papers to the SERA President to be **RECEIVED BY, JANUARY 8, 2021**. The award winner will be recognized during the Thursday luncheon at the SERA 2021 conference. Please note that the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award competition is for **completed** graduate student research (i.e., **ONLY Division I through V papers**), and may include theses or dissertations, as well as other graduate student research. Students who present thesis or dissertation research should submit a **condensed version** of the work, not the full thesis or dissertation. **Work in-progress** presented in graduate student seminars (i.e., only Division VI) is **not** eligible for this award, nor are preliminary works, such as literature reviews or class projects and proposals.

### *Rules for Graduate Student Paper Award Competition:*

- Papers are limited to 30 pages including references (tables and figures excluded).
- Authors must submit both a full version and a blinded version by e-mail to the SERA President.
- The SERA President must **receive** completed papers on or before the **January 8, 2021**, deadline. Late papers are **not** eligible for consideration.
- If multiple authors write the paper, the first author must be a graduate student.
- The first author must be a graduate student and the completed paper must **not** have been submitted to Division VI. This must be stated in your submission e-mail to the SERA President.
- Papers will not be considered for the award unless all co-authors have preregistered by the October deadline for payment receipt.
- At the discretion of the award committee, an award may not be made if there was not at least 1 meritorious paper that was submitted for competition. Should this occur, all participants will be advised that the award will not be made.
- Graduate students must indicate their student status on the title page of the paper.
- The Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award competition is for **completed** graduate student research.

*Send completed papers for 2021 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award  
by E-MAIL ATTACHMENT ONLY to:*

**Grant Morgan**  
**Baylor University**  
**grant\_morgan@baylor.edu**

## 2021 SERA DEANS' AWARDS FOR EXCEPTIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Approximately fifteen \$150 awards and certificates will be given for graduate student research papers based on their contribution to educational research.

Dean's awards will be given to students from universities that choose to participate in this opportunity. There are at most two awards given per participating university. The respective Dean of the College of Education for each university sponsors these awards. An e-mail will be sent to members in the Fall announcing the final list of participating universities.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible, a student must be from one of the participating universities and must attend the 2021 SERA annual meeting. Student authors should **electronically submit** completed papers to the SERA graduate student representative to be:

**RECEIVED BY January 8, 2021.**

**Submission Criterion:** These awards are for completed graduate student research or research work in-progress (i.e., papers submitted to **any** division, I through VI). Papers can be in any form; literature reviews, explanations of statistical concepts, case studies and will judged from the perspective of how it will further the theory of educational research.

The awards will be announced during the Thursday luncheon at the SERA 2021.

### ***Rules for the Deans' Awards Competition:***

- The SERA graduate student representative **must receive** completed papers on or before the January 8, 2021 deadline. Late papers are not eligible for consideration.
- The paper must be authored **only** by graduate students.
- If multiple authors write the papers, the choice can be made for the award to be given to the first author or split among all the authors.
- At the discretion of the awards committee, an award may not be made if fewer than 3 meritorious papers are submitted for competition from that university. Should this occur, all participants will be advised that the award will not be made. Also, awards will not be given for institutions at which Deans decide not to participate.
- If you do not receive a receipt confirmation via E-mail **by January 8, 2021**, please contact the graduate student representative immediately.

*Send completed papers for the 2021 Deans' Awards  
by E-MAIL ATTACHMENT ONLY to:*

**Rebecca DeLozier  
Texas Tech University  
rebecca.delozier@ttu.edu**